

PETITION FOR A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS BY A PERSON IN STATE CUSTODY

Name Horne Joseph D.
 (Last) (First) (Initial)

Prisoner Number V-84328

Institutional Address K.V.S.P. P.O. BOX-5102

Delano, CA 93216

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

MR. Joseph Horne

(Enter the full name of plaintiff in this action.)

vs.

Robert Horel, warden

(Enter the full name of respondent(s) or jailor in this action)

Case No. 4:07-cv-04592-SBA
 (To be provided by the clerk of court)

PETITION FOR A WRIT
 OF HABEAS CORPUS

"FIRST AMENDED
 COMPLAINT"

Read Comments Carefully Before Filling In

When and Where to File

You should file in the Northern District if you were convicted and sentenced in one of these counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, San Mateo and Sonoma. You should also file in this district if you are challenging the manner in which your sentence is being executed, such as loss of good time credits, and you are confined in one of these counties. Habeas L.R. 2254-3(a).

If you are challenging your conviction or sentence and you were not convicted and sentenced in one of the above-named fifteen counties, your petition will likely be transferred to the United States District Court for the district in which the state court that convicted and sentenced you is located. If you are challenging the execution of your sentence and you are not in prison in one of these counties, your petition will likely be transferred to the district court for the district that includes the institution where you are confined. Habeas L.R. 2254-3(b).

1 Who to Name as Respondent

2 You must name the person in whose actual custody you are. This usually means the Warden or
 3 jailor. Do not name the State of California, a city, a county or the superior court of the county in which
 4 you are imprisoned or by whom you were convicted and sentenced. These are not proper
 5 respondents.

6 If you are not presently in custody pursuant to the state judgment against which you seek relief
 7 but may be subject to such custody in the future (e.g., detainers), you must name the person in whose
 8 custody you are now and the Attorney General of the state in which the judgment you seek to attack
 9 was entered.

10 A. INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CONVICTION AND SENTENCE

11 1. What sentence are you challenging in this petition?

12 (a) Name and location of court that imposed sentence (for example; Alameda
 13 County Superior Court, Oakland):

14 Monterey County Superior Court,
 15 Salinas. Location
 Court

16 (b) Case number, if known SSO 30908

17 (c) Date and terms of sentence April 28th 2007 (see
Attache)

18 (d) Are you now in custody serving this term? (Custody means being in jail, on
 19 parole or probation, etc.) Yes ✓ No

20 Where?

21 Name of Institution: Kern Valley State Prison

22 Address: P.O. Box 5102, Delano, CA 93216

23 2. For what crime were you given this sentence? (If your petition challenges a sentence for
 24 more than one crime, list each crime separately using Penal Code numbers if known. If you are
 25 challenging more than one sentence, you should file a different petition for each sentence.)

26 Please see Attached Page Labeled
 27 "Attached document to Federal writ."

28

3. Did you have any of the following?

Arraignment: Yes ☒ No ☐

Preliminary Hearing: Yes ☒ No ☒

Motion to Suppress: Yes ☒ No ☐

4. How did you plead?

Guilty ☐ Not Guilty ☒ Nolo Contendere ☐

Any other plea (specify) _____

5. If you went to trial, what kind of trial did you have?

Jury ☒ Judge alone ☐ Judge alone on a transcript ☐

6. Did you testify at your trial? Yes ☒ No ☐

7. Did you have an attorney at the following proceedings:

(a) Arraignment Yes ☒ No ☐

(b) Preliminary hearing Yes ☒ No ☐

(c) Time of plea Yes ☒ No ☐

(d) Trial Yes ☒ No ☒

(e) Sentencing Yes ☒ No ☐

(f) Appeal Yes ☒ No ☐

(g) Other post-conviction proceeding Yes ☒ No ☐

8. Did you appeal your conviction? Yes ☒ No ☐

(a) If you did, to what court(s) did you appeal?

Court of Appeal Yes ☒ No ☐

Year: 2007 Result: affirmed

Supreme Court of California Yes ☒ No ☐

Year: 2007 Result: affirmed

Any other court Yes ☐ No ☒

Year: Result:

(b) If you appealed, were the grounds the same as those that you are raising in this

petition?

Yes ☒ No ☐

(c) Was there an opinion?

Yes ☒ No ☐

(d) Did you seek permission to file a late appeal under Rule 31(a)?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If you did, give the name of the court and the result:

9. Other than appeals, have you previously filed any petitions, applications or motions with respect to this conviction in any court, state or federal? Yes ☐ No ☒

[Note: If you previously filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus in federal court that challenged the same conviction you are challenging now and if that petition was denied or dismissed with prejudice, you must first file a motion in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit for an order authorizing the district court to consider this petition. You may not file a second or subsequent federal habeas petition without first obtaining such an order from the Ninth Circuit. 28 U.S.C. §§ 2244(b).]

(a) If you sought relief in any proceeding other than an appeal, answer the following questions for each proceeding. Attach extra paper if you need more space.

I. Name of Court: _____

Type of Proceeding: _____

Grounds raised (Be brief but specific):

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

Result: _____ Date of Result: _____

II. Name of Court: _____

Type of Proceeding: _____

Grounds raised (Be brief but specific):

1 a. _____

2 b. _____

3 c. _____

4 d. _____

5 Result: _____ Date of Result: _____

6 III. Name of Court: _____

7 Type of Proceeding: _____

8 Grounds raised (Be brief but specific):

9 a. _____

10 b. _____

11 c. _____

12 d. _____

13 Result: _____ Date of Result: _____

14 IV. Name of Court: _____

15 Type of Proceeding: _____

16 Grounds raised (Be brief but specific):

17 a. _____

18 b. _____

19 c. _____

20 d. _____

21 Result: _____ Date of Result: _____

22 (b) Is any petition, appeal or other post-conviction proceeding now pending in any court?

23 Yes _____ No ☒

24 Name and location of court: _____

25 B. GROUNDS FOR RELIEF

26 State briefly every reason that you believe you are being confined unlawfully. Give facts to
27 support each claim. For example, what legal right or privilege were you denied? What happened?
28 Who made the error? Avoid legal arguments with numerous case citations. Attach extra paper if you

1 need more space. Answer the same questions for each claim.

2 [Note: You must present ALL your claims in your first federal habeas petition. Subsequent
3 petitions may be dismissed without review on the merits. 28 U.S.C. §§ 2244(b); McCleskey v. Zant,
4 499 U.S. 467, 111 S. Ct. 1454, 113 L. Ed. 2d 517 (1991).]

5 Claim One: "Please See Additional Page"

6
7 Supporting Facts: "Please See Additional Page"

8
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11 Claim Two: "Please See Additional Page"

12
13 Supporting Facts: "Please See Additional Page"

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17 Claim Three: "Please See Additional Page"

18
19 Supporting Facts: "Please See Additional Page"

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22
23 If any of these grounds was not previously presented to any other court, state briefly which
24 grounds were not presented and why:

25
26
27
28

1 List, by name and citation only, any cases that you think are close factually to yours so that they
2 are an example of the error you believe occurred in your case. Do not discuss the holding or reasoning
3 of these cases:

4 Nxt v. White Side (1986) 475 U.S. 157, 89 L.Ed 2d 123
5 United States v. Cronin (1984) 466 U.S. 648
6 "See attached document"

7 Do you have an attorney for this petition?

Yes _____ No _____

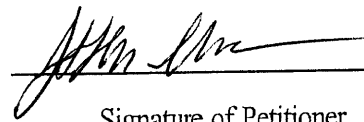
8 If you do, give the name and address of your attorney:

9 _____

10 WHEREFORE, petitioner prays that the Court grant petitioner relief to which s/he may be entitled in
11 this proceeding. I verify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

12
13 Executed on 3/17/08

14 Date

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Signature of Petitioner

(Rev. 6/02)

1 Attached Document to Federal writ of
2 Habeas corpus. continue page #2.
3 Section (d) part (c).

4 The court imposed a term of life
5 without parole for the murder (count#1)
6 plus a consecutive indeterminate
7 life term for using a firearm; a con-
8 secutive indeterminate life term
9 for attempted murder (count#2) plus
10 a 20 year firearm enhancement; a
11 consecutive life term for shooting
12 at an occupied vehicle (count#6); a
13 consecutive life term for shooting
14 at an occupied dwelling (count#8); a
15 consecutive determinate term of
16 3 years for selling drugs (count#7)
17 plus a 4 year gang enhancement; and
18 a consecutive 8 month term for
19 making a - consecutive - criminal
20 threat (count#5). The court imposed
21 additional terms and enhancements
22 but stayed them under section 654.

1 Attached document to federal writ
2 of Habeas corpus.

3 continue additional page for page
4 two.

5 enhancements (245, subd. (a)(2), 186.22,
6 subd. (b)(1)).

1 Attached Document to Federal writ of
 2 Habeas corpus.
 3 continue page (2). part (2)
 4 count one, murder with a criminal
 5 "street gang" special circumstance and
 6 enhancements for discharging a fire-
 7 arm and causing great bodily injury
 8 and death and committing street
 9 gang - the offense for the benefit
 10 of a criminal street gang. (Pen. Code
 11 187, 186.22, subd. (b)(1), 190.2, subd. (a)(22),
 12 12022.53, subd. (c) and (d); count two,
 13 attempted murder with gang and
 14 firearm discharge enhancements
 15 (664, 187, 186.22, subd. (b)(1)); count five - three
 16 assault with a firearm with a gang
 17 enhancement (245, subd. (a)(2), 186.22, subd. (b)
 18 (1)); count five, Making criminal threats
 19 (422); count six, shooting at an occupied
 20 vehicle with a gang enhancement
 21 (246, 186.22, subd. (b)(1)); count seven, sale or
 22 transportation of a controlled substance
 23 with a gang enhancement (Health & Safety
 24 code 11352; 186.22, subd. (b)(1)); count eight,
 25 shooting at an inhabited dwelling w/gang
 26 enhancements (246, 186.22, subds. (b)(1) & (b)(4)(B);
 27 count nine, assault with a firearm w/a gang

1 Attached document to Federal writ
2 of Habeas corpus.

3 continue page (6) clason one

4 Trial defense counsel rendered
5 ineffective assistance of counsel
6 when he failed to represent
7 petitioners during cross-examina-
8 tion. by the prosecutor.

10
11 continue supporting facts for
12 clason one:

13 Trial defense counsel refuse to
14 participate during cross examina-
15 tion of the defendant at trial be-
16 cause of an alleged ethical obligation.

17 He sat mute the entire time
18 the defendant was undergoing cross
19 examination by the prosecutor.

20 In the direct court of appeals
21 opinion they (the Honorable Judges)
22 ruled that trial counsel, in fact, did not
23 participate and rendered ineffective
24 assistance of counsel.

25 This violated petitioners 6th Amend-
26 ment right to counsel, under-united v. -
27 united states v. cronze (1984) 466 U.S. 648

1 Attached document to Federal writ
2 of Habeas corpus.

3 continue additional page of claim one
4 Supporting Facts.

5 denial of counsel at a critical stage
6 of trial is a violation of the U.S.
7 const. and can not be harmless.

8 Petitioner underwent cross-
9 examination in the United States
10 of America absent trial counsel.

11 Petitioner was not represent-
12 ing himself. Thus, under the 6th
13 Amendment should have been protect-
14 ed by effective counsel.

15 The court of direct appeal ruled
16 that trial counsels actions were not
17 a defense tactic.

18 It received an unfair trial.

1 Attached Document to Federal writ
2 of Habeas corpus.

3 continue page (6) claim two.

4 Trial counsel rendered ineff-
5 ective assistance of counsel when
6 he refused to present Petitioner's
7 direct examination by normal ques-
8 tion and answer method; instead
9 defense counsel did not participate
10 in direct examination;

11
12
13 continue supporting facts of
14 claim two:

15 Trial counsel told the court that he
16 could not present Petitioner's direct
17 examination due to an ethical obli-
18 gation.

19 Trial counsel did not present
20 Petitioner was forced to give narra-
21 tive testimony absent counsel.

22 In declarations of trial counsel
23 and defendant's it shows that trial
24 counsel did not have an ethical obligat-
25 ion. Thus, had no-legitimate
26 reason to temporarily discontinue
27 his representation while Petitioner

1 Attached Document of Federal writ
2 of Habeas corpus.
3 continue Additional page of Supporting
4 Facts of claim two.

5 took the stand. (Please view attached
6 declarations of Attorney Robert T.
7 Hatcher and defendant Joseph Moore.)

8 The following cases support my
9 claim. *Nix v. Whiteside* (1986) 475 U.S.
10 157, 171, 89 L.Ed 2d. / *People v. Guzman* (1988)
11 45 Cal. 3d 915.

12 A defendant may be required to
13 testify by narrative summary but
14 "only" if he has admitted guilt to his
15 lawyer... And wish to give testimony
16 contrary to the truth.

17 At no time did petitioner admit
18 any guilt. NOR, did petitioner tell trial
19 counsel that he wish to testify con-
20 trary to any truth. NOR, did counsel
21 possess any evidence that petiti-
22 oner was lying or was going to lie
23 under oath.

24 Thus, petitioner maintained his
25 6th Amendment const. Right to counsel.
26 Trial counsel was obligated to effect-
27 ively assist petitioner in all parts

1 Attached Documents of Federal writ
2 of Habeas corpus.

3 continue Additional page of Supporting
4 Facts of claim two.

5 of trial. Under United States v. Cronk
6 (1984) 466 U.S. 648 "All defendants have a
7 right to effective assistance of counsel.
8 and denial of this right at a
9 critical stage can not be harmless".

10 I was denied counsel during
11 direct examination. I had no rep-
12 resentations during the most critical
13 stages of a trial.

14 My 6th Amendment right to counsel
15 was violated. I was deprived of
16 counsel. The const. was ignored.

17 I received an unfair trial.

1 Attached documents of Federal writ
2 of Habeas corpus.

3 continue claim (3). page 6.

4 Defense counsel rendered ineff-
5 ective assistance by failing to object
6 to the verdict and sentence for the
7 premeditated aspect of attempted
8 murder on grounds that the enhance-
9 ment of premeditation was not
10 pleaded as required.

11
12
13 continue supporting facts for claim
14 3:

15 Petitioner was convicted and sent-
16 ence on the charge of the premedit-
17 ated aspect of attempted murder
18 without ever receiving notice and
19 of such charge.

20 The requirement of notice of all charges
21 brought against anyone in the United
22 States has been long established.

23 This violated my 6th, 5th and 14th
24 amendment.

25 Petitioner never pled to such charge
26 and never was notified that such
27 charge was against him.

1 continue page 7 of Federal writ of
2 Habeas corpus.

3 cases to support claims one and
4 two:

5 *Nix v. Whiteside* (1986) 475 U.S. 157, 89
6 L. Ed 2d 123.

7
8 *United States v. Cross* (1984) 466 U.S. 648
9 659.

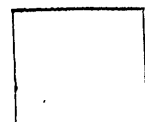
10 *People v. Benavides* (2005) 35 Cal. 4th 69, 86
11 *Stackland v. Washington* (1994) 466 U.S. 668, 688.

12
13 cases to support claim 3

14 *Jones v. Smith* (9th Cir. 2000) 231 F.3d
15 1227

16 *Apprendi v. New Jersey* (2000) 530 U.S.
17 436.

EXHIBIT COVER PAGE



EXHIBIT

Description of this Exhibit:

"Declaration of Retention"

Number of pages to this Exhibit: 4 pages.

JURISDICTION: (Check only one)

- ☐ Municipal Court
- ☐ Superior Court
- ☐ Appellate Court
- ☐ State Supreme Court
- ☒ United States District Court
- ☐ State Circuit Court
- ☐ United States Supreme Court
- ☐ Grand Jury

1 State Address

2 Joseph D. Horne

3 V-84328

4 P.B.S.P.

5 P.O. Box-7500

6 Crescent City, CA 95532

7
8
9 In The United States District
10 Court For The Northern District
11 of California.

12 Joseph D. Horne

13 Petitioner.

14 v.

15 Robert Horne, Warden

16 Respondent.

Civil

case no. 07-4592-SBA

"Declaration of
Petitioner

Joseph Horne.

18 I, Joseph Horne, being duly sworn,
19 declares and states:

20 (1) I was partially represented by
21 Attorney Robert T. Hatcher in the
22 trial of the current case I bring
23 in front of the Federal court.

24 (2.) At no time, before or during
25 trial, did I express any guilt to
26 Mr. Hatcher. At no time did my des-
27 cription of events change. At no time

1 continue Declaration of Petitioner.
 2 did I express to Mr. Hatcher that
 3 I wish to perjure myself. At all times
 4 I expressed my innocence.

5 (3.) At no time, before I advised
 6 Mr. Hatcher at trial that I have deci-
 7 ded to take the stand, did Mr. Hatcher
 8 express to me that he had any doubts
 9 about my alibi for any reason or
 10 that he felt I - explicit - implicitly
 11 admitted guilt to any charge.

12 (4.) Mr. Hatcher and Garry St. Clair
 13 (My investigator) were both notified
 14 of my desire to testify repeatedly.
 15 This notification came well before
 16 trial began. Mr. Hatcher repeatedly told
 17 me I should think about it. My final
 18 decision was made and brought to
 19 my attorney's attention right before
 20 the close of the defense case.

21 (5.) When Mr. Hatcher and Garry
 22 St. Clair spoke with me in a closed
 23 session Mr. Hatcher (At trial) expressed
 24 quote: "she will kill you on cross..."
 25 quote: "she will eat you alive... it will
 26 be murder." I took these comments as
 27 a "scare tactic" by an attorney who was

1 continue declaration of petitioner.
 2 physically ill and had been hospitalized
 3 during trial and just wanted the
 4 trial to be over.

5 (6.) Knowledge about an alleged comm-
 6 ent made by me: "so what, if things
 7 happen that way?" is completely made
 8 up. And the attorney made the fact that
 9 the statement was fabricated obvious.
 10 when he said quote: "or something like
 11 that." He's telling us that he's not sure
 12 what was said but he's sure it was
 13 an completely admitted guilt to a charge
 14 that carries life?

15 (7.) There were accusation made
 16 in open court by the prosecutor at
 17 the preliminary hearing, that my
 18 state appointed investigator was in-
 19 volved in having witnesses shot at. There
 20 was an order made by the Honorable
 21 Judge Sellman for Garry St. Clair to stay
 22 away from witnesses.

23 (8.) Because of this, witnesses ex-
 24 press to my lawyer, my investigator
 25 and myself that they would not talk to
 26 my defense team due to fear of their
 27 lives. My entire defense team was

1 continue Declaration of Petition-Petitioner.
2 er.
3 aware of this. The witnesses that had
4 no choice but to talk only did it
5 because of court order and the inter-
6 views were conducted at the D.A.'s
7 office.

8 (9.) MR. Hatcher has lied and mis-
9 led the courts of justice and attempt-
10 s to continue in his declaration.

11 I declare under penalty of per-
12 jury the foregoing is true and cor-
13 rect, except as to allegations made
14 on information and belief, and as to
15 those, I believe them to be true.

16
17 Executed at Presnet City California
18 on 9/22/07

19
20 John M
21 Joseph Horne
22 Petitioner.
23
24
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27

EXHIBIT COVER PAGE



Description of this Exhibit:

*"The District Court of Appeals
opinion on XAC claim."*

Number of pages to this Exhibit: 18 pages.

JURISDICTION: (Check only one)

- ☐ Municipal Court
- ☐ Superior Court
- ☐ Appellate Court
- ☐ State Supreme Court
- ☒ United States District Court
- ☐ State Circuit Court
- ☐ United States Supreme Court
- ☐ Grand Jury

Defendant's reliance on *People v. Alcala* (1992) 4 Cal.4th 742 and *Carlston v. Shenson* (1941) 47 Cal.App.2d 52 is misplaced. Neither case suggests that the court has a sua sponte duty to intercede during cross-examination in the absence of an objection.

Certainly, a trial court must control trial proceedings, including the introduction and exclusion of evidence; maintain order and decorum; and safeguard both the rights of the defendant and the interests of the state so that fairness and justice prevail. (*People v. Sturm* (2006) 37 Cal.4th 1218, 1237.) Evidence Code section 765 and section 1044 authorize and require the court to do so. Thus, we do not mean to suggest that the court sits as an idle spectator during cross-examination. (See *Gantner v. Gantner* (1952) 39 Cal.2d 272, 278 ["A trial judge is not a mere passive spectator at the trial"]; e.g., *People v. Ponce* (1996) 44 Cal.App.4th 1380, 1388-1389; *Smith v. Superior Court* (1968) 68 Cal.2d 547, 559.) However, a court must be careful about interceding and not "throw the weight of his judicial position into a case, either for or against the defendant." (*People v. Mahoney* (1927) 201 Cal. 618, 627.)

Here, the court was not idle. It interceded numerous times to bar questions by the prosecutor that it found to be argumentative. Under the circumstances, we do not find that the court abused its discretion by not interceding more often.

Ineffective Assistance of Counsel

To obtain reversal due to ineffective assistance, defendant must first show "that defense counsel's performance fell below an objective standard of reasonableness, i.e., that counsel's performance did not meet the standard to be expected of a reasonably competent attorney" (*People v. Cunningham* (2001) 25 Cal.4th 926, 1003; *Strickland v. Washington* (1984) 466 U.S. 668, 688.) Where the record on direct appeal "does not show the reason for counsel's challenged actions or omissions, the conviction must be affirmed unless there could be no satisfactory explanation." (*People v. Anderson* (2001) 25 Cal.4th 543, 569.) Second, defendant must show that there is "a reasonable probability that defendant would have obtained a more favorable result absent counsel's

shortcomings.” (*People v. Cunningham, supra*, 25 Cal.4th at p. 1003.) “A reasonable probability is a probability sufficient to undermine confidence in the outcome.” (*Strickland v. Washington, supra*, 466 U.S. at p. 694; *People v. Staten* (2000) 24 Cal.4th 434, 450-451.)

Here, counsel did not explain on the record why he raised no objections during cross-examination. The Attorney General claims that counsel had sound tactical reasons for not doing so. He argues that many of the challenged questions were within the scope of proper cross-examination on matters that defendant had raised during his direct testimony, and therefore defense counsel reasonably could have determined that an objection would have been overruled. The Attorney General further argues that counsel also may have declined to object also because he did not want to draw undue attention to defendant’s answers, make it appear that defendant had something to hide, or suggest that defendant was afraid or incapable of answering the various questions.

As a general proposition, “competent counsel may often choose to forgo even a valid objection. ‘[I]n the heat of a trial, defense counsel is best able to determine proper tactics in the light of the jury’s apparent reaction to the proceedings. . . .’ [Citation.]” (*Riel, supra*, 22 Cal.4th at p. 1197, fn. omitted.) Consequently, “[t]he decision of when to object is inherently tactical, and the failure to object will seldom establish incompetence.” (*People v. Scott* (1997) 15 Cal.4th 1188, 1223.) Here, however, we find these generalizations inapposite.

Before defendant testified, defense counsel was very attentive during the examination of every other witness and regularly objected on grounds of hearsay, relevance, speculation, repetition, and argumentation. When defendant testified, counsel was mute, despite questions that could have been challenged as compound,

argumentative, irrelevant, speculative, or lacking foundation.¹¹ Moreover, the Attorney General does not argue that *every* question was proper, and, as noted, the court blocked several argumentative questions. Finally, after defendant testified, defense counsel resumed making objections.

Under the circumstances, the record does not reasonably support a finding that counsel made a tactical decision to avoid any and all possible objections regardless of potential merit. Indeed, we consider such a "tactical" explanation to be implausible and unreasonable. Rather, we are satisfied that the reason counsel remained silent was the belief that his ethical obligation not to participate during defendant's direct examination extended to cross-examination. Consequently, we shall evaluate the propriety of counsel's decision not to participate during cross-examination. To do so, however, we

¹¹ For example, the prosecutor asked the following questions: "Seaside Mob is a criminal street gang, is that correct?" "Now, the commitment to the California Youth Authority was only after the arrest July 9, 1997, in Seaside, correct?" "That's when the officers—that's when the officers found a sawed off .22 caliber rifle, a box of ammunition for the rifle, a ski mask and rubber gloves in your room right?" "All right. Isn't it true that with respect to the victims of the crimes that you committed, you were found to be self-centered and narcissistic [sic]?" "Hypothetically, a gang crime is committed by a gang member. Do you think that's going to be a hard case to prosecute?" "Well, the real evil of witness intimidation when it comes to gangs is there is so many people that can try to influence a witness, not just the perpetrator, would you agree?" "But I understand all the killings were senseless. Certainly the killing of Jason Ewing was senseless. [¶] But gangs do senseless things for a number of reasons to benefit their gang, right? "Now, when gang members commit crimes and are questioned by the police about these crimes, often they will lie to the police, correct?" "And when gang members commit crimes, in addition to lying, sometimes they will misinform the police; they will point to someone and send the police on a wild goose chase, right?" "In the movie Rocky, I guess that's what he was doing, right? He went around to collect debts and broke people's arms or broke arms?" "Now, wasn't Michael Fowler a Mob Enforcer?" "Well in that picture—come on. You've seen that picture now for about two years. You've known for two years it's a Glock, right?" "And that's the story that every gang member going back for generations in Seaside tells police when they describe a gang killing; it's over a girl, right?"

shall first explain why defense counsel may properly decline to participate in a client's direct examination.

In *People v. Guzman* (1988) 45 Cal.3d 915 (*Guzman*), overruled on another point in *Price v. Superior Court* (2001) 25 Cal.4th 1046, 1069, footnote 13, the California Supreme Court implicitly approved letting a defendant testify with a free narrative when he or she takes the stand against the advice of counsel. There, the defendant claimed the procedure denied him effective assistance of counsel and forced him to waive his right to counsel and represent himself. (*Guzman, supra*, 45 Cal.4th at pp. 942, 946.) The Supreme Court disagreed.

The court explained that a defendant has no constitutional right to give false testimony, and defense counsel has an ethical obligation as an officer of the court to refuse to suborn perjury. (*Guzman, supra*, 45 Cal.3d at p. 943, citing *Nix v. Whiteside* (1986) 475 U.S. 157.) Next, the court observed that the United States Supreme Court had not established what defense counsel should do when he or she believes his client is lying, or will do so on the stand, and the California Rules of Professional Conduct do not prohibit free narrative testimony without the assistance of counsel. Thus, the court analyzed whether that the use of that approach had denied the defendant effective assistance of counsel. (*Guzman, supra*, 45 Cal.3d at p. 944.)

The court found that counsel's conduct "closely followed that formerly prescribed by the American Bar Association (ABA) Project on Standards for Criminal Justice, Standards Relating to the Defense Function (Approved Draft 1971) standard 7.7. That standard recognize[d] that, although counsel need not elicit what he thinks will be perjured testimony, an accused has an absolute right to testify over counsel's objection."¹² (*Guzman, supra*, 45 Cal.3d at p. 944, fn. omitted.) The court also noted

¹² Rule 5-200 of the California Rules of Professional Conduct provides, "In presenting a matter to a tribunal, a member: [¶] (A) Shall employ, for the purpose of maintaining the causes confided to the member such means only as are consistent with

that although the United States Supreme Court did not favor the free narrative approach, it had not condemned it as ineffective assistance. (*Ibid.*) The court further cited cases approving an attorney's " 'passive refusal to lend aid to what is believed to be perjury' " which would include counsel's accepting a free narrative approach. (*Id.* at pp. 945-946.) In short, the court opined that the approach represented defense counsel's "best effort" to reconcile his duty to his client as defense counsel with his ethical obligation as an officer of the court. Accordingly, the court found no ineffective assistance. (*Id.* at p. 946.)

The court also concluded that defendant had not been forced to represent himself.

"Defendant was 'forced' to represent himself only with respect to his own direct testimony. Counsel was available for and participated in all other stages of the trial. Therefore, it was not necessary that the trial court's warnings about the dangers of self-representation be as complete as would be necessary for a defendant who sought to conduct his entire defense. More important, the court expressly advised defendant of the dangers of the free narrative approach. Defendant understood the dangers and had time to consider them before he insisted on testifying." (*Guzman, supra*, 45 Cal.3d at p. 945.)

In *People v. Gadson* (1993) 19 Cal.App.4th 1700 (*Guzman*), the defendant testified using free narrative against counsel's advice. (*Id.* at p. 1705-1708.) On appeal, he claimed ineffective assistance because counsel acceded to his request to testify. Moreover, he claimed he was denied the right to counsel because he had to represent himself during direct examination, even though he had not asked to do so. (*Id.* at p. 1709.)

The court found that defense counsel was required to allow the defendant to testify because the defendant had an absolute right to testify over the objection of counsel. The court further opined that "defense counsel's refusal to participate in the presentation of perjurious testimony from the accused does not deny the client effective assistance of

truth; [¶] (B) Shall not seek to mislead the judge, judicial officer, or jury by an artifice or false statement of fact or law; . . ." (See also Bus. & Prof. Code, §§ 6077, 6068, subd. (d).)

counsel.” (*Gadson, supra*, 19 Cal.App.4th at p. 1710.) Relying on the analysis in *Guzman*, the court concluded that the free narrative approach “properly reconciled the competing interests which intersected in this situation. Defendant was able to testify on his own behalf; trial counsel refrained from actively participating in the presentation of false testimony; defendant was still afforded the assistance of trial counsel; and the integrity of the adversarial system of justice was not compromised.” (*Id.* at p. 1711; see *People v. Johnson* (1998) 62 Cal.App.4th 608, 630 [following *Guzman* and *Gadson*]; *People v. Jennings* (1999) 70 Cal.App.4th 899, 907 [following *Gadson*].)

These cases establish that an attorney has an ethical obligation to avoid eliciting false testimony and therefore may have to refrain from participating in a client’s direct examination. However, in the context of *cross-examination*, a defense attorney does not elicit the defendant’s testimony. Indeed, none of the proposed objections here would have involved defense counsel in eliciting potentially perjurious testimony. Rather, during cross-examination, a defense counsel performs adversarial and protective functions. In particular, counsel makes sure that the prosecutor plays by the rules of evidence and asks only proper questions; counsel helps keep prejudicial material and inadmissible evidence from the trier of fact; and counsel preserves claims of evidentiary error by the court and prosecutorial misconduct for appeal.¹³ Thus, although a defense attorney’s ethical obligation may justify nonparticipation during his client’s direct examination, it does not necessarily or reasonably justify nonparticipation during cross-examination.

Indeed, in *People v. Nakahara* (2003) 30 Cal.4th 705, the Supreme Court

¹³ Conceivably, there may be some gray areas of cross-examination, where a defense attorney, scrupulously attuned to his or her ethical obligation, could worry that a particular objection might connect him to perjurious testimony—e.g., an objection on the ground that the prosecutor’s question has misstated defendant false testimony. In such a situation, we believe that counsel reasonably could decline to object without implicating the client’s right to effective assistance of counsel.

implicitly assumed that a defense attorney's ethical obligation does not disable him or her from participating during cross-examination. There, defense counsel declined to participate during direct. On appeal, the defendant claimed that he had not been advised that he had to waive his right to counsel before giving narrative testimony, and he did not waive it. (*Id.* at p. 716-717.) The Supreme Court observed that "any such 'waiver,' and the consequent absence of counsel, was limited to defendant's narrative statement itself, as his counsel was fully available before and after the statement was given, *including cross-examination.*" (*Id.* at p. 717, italics added; see also, e.g., *Com. v. Mitchell* (2003) 781 N.E.2d 1237, 1245 [permitting objections during cross-examination]; *People v. DePallo* (2001) 754 N.E.2d 751, 752 [same].)

"[T]he burden of proof that the defendant must meet in order to establish his entitlement to relief on an ineffective-assistance claim is preponderance of the evidence." (*People v. Ledesma* (1987) 43 Cal.3d 171, 218.) Given our discussion, we find that defendant has shown by a preponderance of the evidence that counsel's conduct during cross-examination fell below an objective standard of reasonableness: He declined to participate during cross-examination because he erroneously believed that his ethical obligation prevented him from raising objections to the prosecutor's questions. Thus, we turn to the issue of prejudice.

Defendant lists over 40 allegedly improper questions and 80 objections to them that counsel should have made. As noted, to establish prejudice from counsel's omission, defendant must demonstrate a reasonable probability that the some or all of the objections would have been sustained and that he would have obtained a more favorable result had the objections been made and sustained. (*Strickland v. Washington, supra*, 466 U.S. at pp. 688, 694.)

Defendant does not argue the merits of most of the objections that he claims should have been made. He simply notes the question and lists the grounds for objection.

As we discuss below, most of defendant's objections would have been overruled; and as to those that had merit, counsel's omissions were harmless.

Defendant's primary substantive complaints concern gang-related questions, improper impeachment, hearsay, and relevance.

Before discussing those complaints, we note that when a defendant elects to take the stand, the prosecutor is entitled to disprove his or her direct testimony. (*People v. Rowland* (1992) 4 Cal.4th 238, 275.) To this end, the trial court must afford the prosecutor wide latitude during cross-examination, especially on the issue of credibility, and allow questions on any matter within the scope of direct examination. (*People v. Harris* (2005) 37 Cal.4th 310, 335; *People v. Gutierrez* (2002) 28 Cal.4th 1083, 1148; *Curry v. Superior Court* (1970) 2 Cal.3d 707, 715; see Evid. Code, §773.)¹⁴

In *People v. Chatman* (2006) 38 Cal.4th 344, the court explained, "The permissible scope of cross-examination of a defendant is generally broad. 'When a defendant voluntarily testifies, the district attorney may fully amplify his testimony by inquiring into the facts and circumstances surrounding his assertions, or by introducing evidence through cross-examination which explains or refutes his statements or the inferences which may necessarily be drawn from them. [Citation.] A defendant cannot, by testifying to a state of things contrary to and inconsistent with the evidence of the prosecution, thus indirectly denying the testimony against him, but without testifying expressly with relation to the same facts, limit the cross-examination to the precise facts concerning which he testifies. [Citation.]' [Citation.]" (*Id.* at p. 382, quoting *People v. Cooper* (1991) 53 Cal.3d 771, 822.)

With this in mind, we observe that during his narrative testimony, defendant responded to the prosecution's gang experts. Based on his years of experience with

¹⁴ Evidence Code section 773, subdivision (a) provides, "(a) A witness examined by one party may be cross-examined upon any matter within the scope of the direct examination by each other party to the action in such order as the court directs."

different gangs and gang members, he offered his own history, views, and opinions concerning the various Seaside gangs, his own gang the Mob, different gang areas, gang signs and colors, and gang memorials.

Concerning the cross-examination on his gang testimony, defendant claims counsel should have objected to questions that treated him as if he were a gang expert and sought his lay opinion concerning different subjects and hypothetical scenarios. Specifically, defendant complains of questions about whether the gangs he had been in—i.e., the Mob and Westside Village Park—were criminal street gangs; whether the Mob’s primary activities involved committing the various crimes enumerated in the gang statute; whether the Mob stands for “murder on Broadway” and relates to the murder of a particular Mob member; what crimes Mob members have committed; whether gangs intimidate witnesses to their crimes; whether helping police is against gang philosophy; whether gang killings are important to the gang; whether gang members do senseless things, including killings, for the benefit of their gang; whether gang members lie to or misinform the police about gang crimes; and whether a gang member will have backup support for a shooting.

With one exception, we reject defendant’s claim. The subject matter of the prosecutor’s questions fell well within the scope of defendant’s narrative testimony and properly sought to expose the extent of his knowledge and thereby undermine his credibility concerning gangs, their members, and their history, especially concerning the Mob. Many of the questions properly sought a lay opinion that was rationally based on defendant’s own experiences and perceptions. (See Evid. Code, § 800.) And insofar as some questions sought an expert-type opinion, we do not find them objectionable because

defendant assumed that he was qualified to answer all of the questions; and in doing so without hesitation, he, in effect, qualified himself as his own gang expert.¹⁵

Defendant argues that the gang questions were prejudicial because they implied that he was familiar with gangs and gang related crimes, including specific killings. However, it was not so much the prosecutor's cross-examination that demonstrated defendant's familiarity with gangs, their activities, and crimes as defendant's own direct testimony.

We agree with defendant that asking defendant whether the Mob was a "criminal street gang" was objectionable because the prosecutor was implicitly using the phrase in its technical sense as defined in section 186.22 and as Detective Clark and Sergeant Kimball had used it. However, the prosecutor never established a proper foundation for the question—i.e., whether defendant knew and understood that statutory meaning of the phrase. Defendant claims counsel's failure to make a "foundation" objection was prejudicial. He argues that in agreeing that the Mob was a criminal street gang, he inadvertently admitted an essential element of the gang special circumstance allegation and enhancement allegations.

The jury was instructed that to find those allegations true, it had to find that defendant acted for the benefit of a criminal street gang; and to make that finding, the jury had to make various preliminary and prerequisite factual findings concerning the existence of a criminal street gang, its primary activities, and its pattern of criminal conduct. The jury was also instructed that in making these factual determinations, it could rely on expert testimony.

Detective Clark and Sergeant Kimball discussed the legal definition of a criminal street gang. They also provided factual bases for their conclusions concerning the Mob's

¹⁵ At one point the prosecutor stated, "You're the expert. You designated yourself as an expert, sir."

primary criminal activities, its pattern of criminal conduct, and its qualifications as a criminal street gang as well as their conclusions that defendant committed his crimes for the benefit of the Mob.

In contrast, defendant offered little, if any, testimony to support the underlying factual findings necessary to show that the Mob's primary activities involved committing enumerated crimes or that the Mob has engaged in a pattern of criminal activity. Indeed, when asked whether the primary activities of a "criminal street gang" include the offenses listed in the statute, defendant answered, "That's not what it takes to be a gang," indicating that he did not understand the legal definition of a criminal street gang.

Given the strong, uncontradicted testimony of the prosecution's gang experts, we do not find a reasonable probability that defendant would have obtained a more favorable result concerning the gang allegations had counsel raised a foundation objection to the prosecutor's question, had the court sustained the objection, and had defendant not answered it.¹⁶ (*Strickland v. Washington, supra*, 466 U.S. at pp. 688, 694.)

Defendant also complains that counsel should have objected to the prosecutor's use of his juvenile adjudications for impeachment. However, most of the prosecutor's questions properly focused on the nature of defendant's juvenile misconduct rather than the fact of a juvenile adjudication.¹⁷ (See *People v. Lee* (1994) 28 Cal.App.4th 1724, 1740 [prosecution may introduce prior juvenile misconduct for purposes of

¹⁶ The prosecutor also asked defendant if defendant's former gang in Barstow—the Westside Village Park Gang—was a criminal street gang, and defendant said it was. The failure to make a foundation objection to that question and answer was also harmless because there was no evidence, argument, or attempt to prove that defendant committed his offenses for the benefit of that gang. Indeed, the prosecution experts did not discuss that gang except to say that defendant had previously claimed membership.

¹⁷ For example, defendant was asked whether he had robbed an 11-year old boy and then intimidating him by acting as if he had a gun and warning that he knew where the boy lived.

impeachment]; Cal. Const., art. I, § 28, subd. (f) [“Any prior felony conviction of any person in any criminal proceeding, whether adult *or juvenile*, shall subsequently be used without limitation for purposes of impeachment . . . “]; see also *In re Manzy W.* (1997) 14 Cal.4th 1199, 1209.)¹⁸

Defendant’s reliance on *People v. Allen* (1986) 42 Cal.3d 1222 (*Allen*), *People v. Sanchez* (1985) 170 Cal.App.3d 216 (*Sanchez*), and *People v. Jackson* (1986) 177 Cal.App.3d 708, 711-713 (*Jackson*) is misplaced.

In *Allen*, the court stated that in introducing a prior felony conviction to impeach a witness, counsel may not inquire into the underlying details of the offense unless they are relevant for some other legitimate purpose. (*Allen, supra*, 42 Cal.3d at p. 1270.) Moreover, *Allen* predates the court’s decision in *People v. Wheeler* (1992) 4 Cal.4th 284, where the court recognized that evidence of misconduct other than *felony* convictions was admissible for impeachment. (*Id.* at pp. 291-292.) Nothing in *Allen* suggests that the misconduct underlying juvenile adjudications is inadmissible for impeachment.

Sanchez held that a juvenile *adjudication* is not admissible as a felony conviction for impeachment because it is not a conviction. (*Sanchez, supra*, 170 Cal.App.3d at pp. 218-219. *Jackson* held that Welfare and Institutions Code section 1772 prevented a juvenile adjudication from being used to impeach a minor who had been honorably discharged by the Youth Offender Control Board. (*Jackson, supra*, 177 Cal.App.3d at pp.

¹⁸ The prosecutor did ask whether defendant was committed to CYA after his arrest for possessing a weapon, ammunition, a ski mask, and rubber gloves and whether he was committed to CYA for robbery. Even assuming those questions impermissibly used the fact of a juvenile adjudication for impeachment, the failure to object to those two questions was harmless because, as discussed above, the misconduct underlying the commitment was admissible for impeachment.

713-714.) Neither case considered whether evidence concerning the juvenile misconduct underlying an adjudication is admissible.¹⁹

Defendant claims counsel should have made hearsay objections to certain questions designed to impeach him based on information in a CYA Parole Consideration Report. Quoting the report, the prosecutor asked whether defendant had admitted during a group session that he not only possessed a gun but also intended to show a younger gang member how to kill somebody. Defendant denied saying that and claimed the report was inaccurate. Thereafter, the prosecutor noted that defendant had taken a victim awareness class and asked him whether he had been found to be “self-centered and narcissistic [*sic*]” concerning his criminal victims. Defendant answered, “Self-centered I can agree with. Narcissistic [*sic*] I can’t agree with because I don’t know what it means.”

As to the first question, defendant has not demonstrated that a hearsay objection would have been sustained. The prosecutor did not attempt to introduce the CYA report into evidence, and it was not admitted. The prosecutor’s question itself was not testimony or evidence, and jurors were instructed not to treat it as such. (See CALJIC No. 1.02.) Jurors are capable of distinguishing the testimony of witnesses from the statements or questions of counsel, and therefore we presume that jurors follow such instructions. (See *People v. Yeoman* (2003) 31 Cal.4th 93, 139; e.g., *People v. Smithey* (1999) 20 Cal.4th 936, 961; *People v. Boyette* (2002) 29 Cal.4th 381, 436.) Moreover, insofar as defendant was asked about a statement that he had allegedly made, evidence of

¹⁹ Defendant notes that before trial, the prosecutor argued that her witnesses could not be impeached with their juvenile adjudications. Thus, defendant claims the prosecutor was guilty of misconduct by later doing to him what she had previously argued was not allowed. However, as noted, defendant forfeited any claim of prosecutorial misconduct. Moreover, in light of our discussion concerning impeachment with juvenile misconduct, there is no reasonable probability defendant would have obtained a more favorable result had defense counsel objected to the impeachment on grounds of prosecutorial misconduct. (*Strickland v. Washington*, *supra*, 466 U.S. at pp. 688, 694.)

his statement would have been admissible over a hearsay objection as a party admission. (Evid. Code, § 1220.) However, defendant denied making the statement.

As to the second question, defendant testified on direct that he took a victim awareness class at CYA. The prosecutor's question asked about CYA's evaluation of his performance. Insofar as the conclusion that defendant was self-centered and narcissistic represented an extra-judicial statement by CYA officials offered for the truth, a hearsay objection would have prevented defendant from repeating it or agreeing that it had been said. However, the failure to object was harmless. The potential prejudice from defendant's admission that he was self-centered was inconsequential compared with the negative impression of his character from other conduct that he admitted. For example, he said he threatened to kick Lisa's "A" because she returned a vehicle he had bought without returning his money. He testified that Lisa had wanted him to stop selling crack, and when he told her he would have no place to stay if he did, she arranged for them to live with her father. However, he never stopped selling drugs. He also testified that he was furious about a rumor concerning Lisa and Jason, he asked his sister to "[s]ock that bitch in the mouth"; and he admitted that, despite Lisa's repeated protestations of love, he threatened to assault her, saying, "If I see you, I'm gonna slam my dick in your face."

Defendant complains that counsel should have made relevance objections to questions about the killing of Anton Tinsley near Broadway, which insinuated that the killing was the basis for the name Mob—i.e., murder on Broadway. However, those questions were well within the scope of cross-examination about defendant's direct testimony concerning the origins of his gang, its name, the infighting among Seaside Crip gangs, and the killing of his friend Michael Butler. Moreover, the questions were highly relevant concerning defendant's credibility on gang related subjects.

Defendant complains that counsel should have made a relevance objection when the prosecutor asked whether Latina Harris had to summon him to come downstairs when police came to her home to investigate the shooting at Boykin's car and whether she was

angry that defendant had brought the police to her door. Defendant answered “no” to both questions.

Defendant testified that after the shooting, he called a friend to see if the police were in the area, and then he went to Latina’s home. However, police saw him as he walked through the gate of the building. He knocked on the window, and when Harris came to the door, he asked to use the upstairs bathroom. She allowed him inside, and when he came back downstairs, she was talking to the police. Both Officers Martin and Gonzalez also testified about locating defendant at Latina Harris’s home and the circumstances surrounding their conversation with both Latina and defendant.

The prosecutor’s first question was relevant insofar as it related to the circumstances under which the police spoke to defendant, and it tested the implication that he voluntarily came downstairs, as if he had nothing to hide. The second question—whether Harris was angry at him—was irrelevant, and an objection would have been sustained.

Defendant claims that the question was prejudicial because it “[s]hows that his friends are angry with him.” However, defendant *denied* that Harris was angry with him, and there was no testimony that Latina was angry at him. Moreover, the prosecutor’s question itself was not evidence. Under the circumstances, therefore, jurors had no evidentiary basis to infer that Latina or any of defendant’s other friends were angry. In any event, it is not so uncommon for friends to get mad at each other, and that they do does not necessarily reflect a bad character trait. Accordingly, we find no reasonable probability that defendant would have obtained a more favorable result on any count had counsel successfully objected to the question. (*Strickland v. Washington, supra*, 466 U.S. at pp. 688, 694.)

Defendant complains that the prosecutor asked, “In the movie Rocky, I guess that’s what he was doing, right? He went around to collect debts and broke people’s arms or broke arms?” Defendant answered, “I don’t really remember. I remember the

boxing ring fights.” Defendant also complains that he was asked whether Michael Fowler was an enforcer for the Mob. Defendant answered that he was “actually a drug addict.”

In asking those questions, the prosecutor was focusing on the shooting at Boykin’s car after Boykin was held responsible for his friend’s alleged failure to pay for some drugs. She asked generally what gangs do when they get “ripped off” and whether gangs have “enforcers.” Defendant said, “Some do, yes.” The prosecutor then asked the “Rocky” question.

Defendant also testified that if a drug user rips off a gang dealer, the problem is usually between the two of them, and the dealer may retaliate; however, he agreed that sometimes other gang member may retaliate. The prosecutor then asked about Michael Fowler.

We agree that the “Rocky” question was irrelevant, lacked foundation, and seems argumentative. However, given defendant’s admission that some gangs have enforcers and sometimes gang members retaliate, we fail to see how the “Rocky” question and defendant’s answer were prejudicial. Moreover, given defendant’s testimony and defendant’s intimate knowledge of the Mob, we find the question about Fowler to be relevant. Indeed, defendant mentioned Fowler during his direct testimony.

In addition to the substantive objections discussed above, defendant complains that counsel should have challenged many questions because they were compound. However, even if some or all of those objections had been sustained, the prosecutor could have simply broken the questions down into their component parts and re-asked them. Moreover, the record does not reveal that defendant was confused by the questions; instead, he understood and answered them. Thus, unless the subject matter of compound questions was objectionable on some other grounds, the failure to make “compound” objections was harmless. (See *Kelley v. Bailey* (1961) 189 Cal.App.2d 728, 737 [error concerning compound questions harmless where witness understood and answered them];

Board of Trustees of Contra Costa Junior College District v. Schuyten (1958) 161 Cal.App.2d 50, 58 [same]; *Clay v. Lagiss* (1956) 143 Cal.App.2d 441, 445 [same].)

Much the same can be said about objections that certain questions were argumentative.²⁰ We agree that many questions were objectionable as argumentative. However, our focus now is on the potential prejudice from defense counsel's failure to object. Without minimizing the impropriety of the prosecutor's argumentative questions, we observe that generally, in asking such questions, the prosecutor did not state or imply the existence of facts not otherwise before the jury; some of the questions could have been restated as proper and appropriate questions; some simply highlighted the improbability of defendant's explanation; and most, if not all, of the argument contained in the questions properly could have been, and was, made to the jury at the appropriate time. (See *People v. Guerra, supra*, 37 Cal.4th at p. 1127; *People v. Price* (1991) 1 Cal.4th 324, 484.)

We further note that defendant's answers were not damaging. They were short, direct, and consistent with his claim of innocence. (See *People v. Johnson* (2003) 109 Cal.App.4th 1230, 1236.) For example, on direct, defendant testified that after his release from CYA he came to Seaside and was jailed because he likes to take pictures and stole a disposable camera from Safeway. On cross-examination, the prosecutor focused on the pictures of defendant taken with a disposable camera on the day of the shooting and asked, "Now you told us that you like to take pictures. That's why you stole some cameras from Safeway in 2001, because you like to take pictures so much. [Are there] [a]ny pictures—no pictures on this roll of anyone but you on 11/11/02; is that right?"

²⁰ "An argumentative question is a speech to the jury masquerading as a question" and is improper because "it does not seek to elicit relevant, competent testimony, or often any testimony at all." (*People v. Chatman* (2006) 38 Cal.4th 344, 384.) Instead, it is designed to either engage the witness in argument or argue directly to the jury. (*Ibid.*; *People v. Guerra* (2006) 37 Cal.4th 1067, 1125.)

Defendant agreed that he was the only one pictured. To the extent the question was argumentative, it and defendant's answer were harmless because the fact is, neither Lisa nor defendant had taken pictures of anyone else that day despite the fact that they were allegedly having an impromptu baby shower with other guests.

Finally, insofar as the prosecutor may have implied the existence of certain facts that were not yet, or ever, before the jury, defendant suffered no appreciable harm because, as noted, the court instructed jurors to not infer the existence of any facts from counsels' questions.

Our analysis concerning compound and argumentative questions also applies to the questions that defendant claims called for speculation. Defendant answered many of them with a general or noncommittal answer or simply said he did not know; and, again jurors were instructed not to infer anything from questions themselves.

Defendant specifically complains about questions that asked whether certain witnesses had lied.

In *People v. Chatman*, *supra*, 38 Cal.4th 344, the Supreme Court explained that were-they-lying type questions are improper when they are argumentative, call for speculation, or are designed to elicit irrelevant testimony. However, such questions are proper and permissible when the defendant is a percipient witness to the events at issue or is well acquainted with the witness and thus has personal knowledge that can assist the trier of fact in determining whether particular witnesses, whose testimony differs from the defendant's, are intentionally lying or are merely mistaken. (*Id.* at p. 383-384.)

Here, the questions defendant cites did not impermissibly call for irrelevant speculation. They involved testimony and police reports concerning events to which defendant was a percipient witness: the sale of drugs to Jones and defendant's flight from police on November 14, 2002. They also concerned Lisa's testimony about his handwriting on a jailhouse note. Given his personal knowledge concerning all of these

matters, defendant could have assisted the jury in determining why the testimony of those witnesses differed from his own and whether the witnesses were lying.

In light of our whole discussion, we conclude that defendant has failed to demonstrate a reasonable probability that the jury would have returned a more favorable verdict on any charge or allegation had defense counsel objected to the prosecutor's questions whenever it was theoretically possible to do so, or had counsel raised a more general claim of prosecutorial misconduct. Simply put, as to those objections, both individually and collectively, counsel's omissions do not undermine our confidence in the jury's verdict. (*Strickland v. Washington*, *supra*, 466 U.S. at pp. 688, 694.)

GANG ENHANCEMENT FINDINGS

Defendant contends that there is insufficient evidence to support the jury's special circumstance and gang enhancement findings.

When considering a challenge to the sufficiency of the evidence to support a criminal conviction or enhancement, we determine whether there is substantial evidence—i.e., evidence which is reasonable, credible, and of solid value—such that a reasonable trier of fact could make the necessary findings beyond a reasonable doubt. In making that determination, we do not reweigh the evidence, resolve conflicts in the evidence, or reevaluate the credibility of witnesses. Rather, we review the whole record in the light most favorable to the judgment, we draw all reasonable inferences from the evidence that support it, and we presume the existence of every fact the trier of fact could reasonably deduce from the evidence. (*Jackson v. Virginia* (1979) 443 U.S. 307, 319-320; *People v. Johnson* (1980) 26 Cal.3d 557, 578; *People v. Vy* (2004) 122 Cal.App.4th 1209, 1224.)

The special circumstance allegation and gang enhancements required a finding that defendant participated in a "criminal street gang" (§ 186.22, subd. (a); see § 190.2, subd. (a)(22)), which is defined as, "an ongoing association of three or more persons with a common name or common identifying sign or symbol [that] has as one of its primary

PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL

BY PERSON IN STATE CUSTODY

(Fed. R. Civ. P. 5; 28 U.S.C. § 1746)

I, Joseph Horne, declare:

I am over 18 years of age and a party to this action. I am a resident of Kern
Valley State Prison,
in the county of Kern,
State of California. My prison address is: P.O. Box-5102

On March 19th 2008,
(DATE)

I served the attached: Amended Federal writ
of Habeas corpus
(DESCRIBE DOCUMENT)

on the parties herein by placing true and correct copies thereof, enclosed in a sealed envelope, with postage thereon fully paid, in the United States Mail in a deposit box so provided at the above-named correctional institution in which I am presently confined. The envelope was addressed as follows:

Office of the clerk U.S. District court Northern
District of California
1301 Clay St. Suite 4008
Oakland CA 94612-5212

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on March 19th 2008
(DATE)

JMH AL
(DECLARANT'S SIGNATURE)

Mr. Joseph Horne
#V-84328
K.V.R. 2-8/118
P.O. Box-5102
Delano, CA 93216



Office of the Clerk, U.S.
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